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4—Salem, Oregon, Thursday, March 9, 1950

Repeal of Federal Oleo Taxes

Both houses of congress have passed the controversial bill repealing federal taxes on oleomargarine and sent it to the White House. President Truman is expected to sign it as the democratic party platform pledged it. It will go into effect July 1. The house vote was 262 to 106 and the senate 59 to 20.

The measure was bitterly fought by dairy farmers and vigorously supported by farmers growing cotton seed, soy beans and other vegetable oils. The final bill was a compromise worked out by a senate-house conference committee which eliminated a provision that oleomargarine be sold at retail in triangular forms. Its final form satisfied some congressmen from butter producing states on labeling requirements.

Senator Wiley (R., Wis.) voiced the sentiment of opponents when he declared the law would penalize the milk cow areas and that grass would grow in the streets of some industrial regions too and that the "farmers have been sold down the river." On the other hand Senator Aiken (R., Vt.) says the measure gives butter men protection against fraud that the taxes do and that the better interest of the dairy farmer has been safeguarded as much as possible by law.

The taxes to be repealed are: Ten cents a pound on colored margarine at retail; 1/4 cent a pound on uncolored; \$600 a year on oleomargarine manufacturers; \$480 a year on wholesalers of the colored product; \$200 a year on wholesalers of uncolored oleomargarine; \$48 a year on retailers of the colored product; \$5 a year on retailers of uncolored margarine.

Many states have discriminatory taxes on oleomargarine, including Oregon, which are not affected by the federal bill, but efforts will probably be made to repeal these at coming sessions of the legislature.

Oleomargarine is a healthful food and is almost universally used in cooking because it is cheaper than butter, as well as a spread substitute when colored. Repeal of federal taxes should lower its cost and so benefit the city dweller in slashing the cost of living.

Enforcement of the penalty provisions as to labeling is left to the federal trade commission. Violators of the labeling regulations could be fined up to \$5,000 a day. The food and drug administration will have the job of seeing to it that the product is what it is represented to be, and not adulterated.

The 'Partisans of Peace'

In as much as President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson refuse to make any effort to renew official efforts to end the "cold war" instigated by Russia and reach a settlement on the atomic bomb issue, a fifteen-man volunteer American delegation is trying its hand as "Partisans of Peace" to effect a reconciliation.

Three of the delegates appeared Wednesday speaking in the Kremlin before a representative group of the Soviet parliament, urging creation of a United Nations atomic control group with the right of unlimited inspection throughout the world, apparently omitting control heretofore demanded.

The Americans were former Assistant U. S. Attorney General O. John Rogge, illustrator Rockwell Kent, and radio commentator Johannes Steel. Rogge acted as spokesman, urged that the U. N. body be given unlimited power not only to inspect atomic installations but also armaments and military bases throughout the world. All the group's findings should be published, he said.

"Once we have removed the mountains of fear, denunciations, counter-denunciations and name-calling will subside," he said. He expressed the opinion that capitalism and communism can exist peacefully side by side and quoted Premier Josef Stalin to that effect. He continued:

"I look forward to the time when Russians and Americans will be partners in world peace within the framework of a strong United Nations, which will free all peoples and all human beings from all forms of oppression. If there must be competition between those countries, let it be for determining who is the champion of all oppressed people."

Of course Premier Stalin has the say as to whether he wants peace or war, and what the deputies of the supreme Soviet and other leaders want doesn't count, and the peace efforts may be doomed in advance to failure, or utilized as a sign of weakness to promote aggression, but it certainly does no harm for it expresses the peace desires not only of the American people but peoples of all the world, including the Russians. But the fact that Rogge is a policy maker for Wallace's progressive party raises a suspicion of politics.

Up in (Whose) Arms?

Louis Johnson, the defense secretary, has another scalp to hang on his office wall.

The "victim" was Rear Admiral Boone, who had served as White House physician to Presidents Harding, Coolidge and Hoover. Boone was fired from his high medical post in the defense set-up because he was "uncooperative."

This latest victim of the Johnson purge had described Johnson's economy cutbacks in military hospitals as "shortsighted." And, as the American public is learning, no one can question the word and wisdom of Louis Johnson—and stay in the defense organization. Admiral Denfeld, the top naval officer in the service, found that out last fall—and was fired.

Reports from Washington, D. C., say the house armed services committee is up in arms over the removal of Admiral Boone. But the only arms the armed services committee is in are those of the boss-man, Louis Johnson.

When will the congressional committee stop being the pet of Johnson and become, instead, the watchdog of the defense department, as it is supposed to be according to the system of government in the United States?

Siamese's Open-Door Policy

Portland, March 9 (AP)—The Dr. Richard M. Steiner family may have to keep the front door locked—Sumi Su is too smart. After worrying for three months about finding the door standing open at many odd hours, they discovered the culprit is Sumi Su, a female Siamese cat.

Sumi Su learned to jump at the door, curl a paw in the curved handle and press the latch with the other paw. The door swings open and in goes Sumi Su and her male litter-mate.

BY BECK

Popular People



KRISS-KROSS

Hey, Buddy, Here's a Deal That'll Make You a Million

By CHRIS KOWITZ, Jr.

"Hey, buddy, want in on a sure thing?" A couple of gents around town are attempting to drum up interest in a "cat and rat" farm. They haven't actually asked anyone to invest capital yet... in fact, we doubt if they're very serious about the idea. Nevertheless, their plan sounds convincing.



Chris Kowitz, Jr.

The proposed "cat and rat" farm would operate like this: Product, cat skins, would be sold to glove factories. Sales would be almost clear profit, for over a head expense would be nearly nil. The cats would eat the rats and after the cats were killed and their skins removed, the cat carcasses would be fed to the rats. No feed bills that way, the two would-be "farmers" point out.

As we have said, the gents who are circulating the idea probably aren't really serious in their efforts to start up a "cat and rat" farm. Perhaps they're just trying to prove that there's more than one way to skin a cat.

Leonore Boyson, Beaverton entry in tonight's drum major contest at Salem high school, is twin sister of girl who won the contest three years ago... The majorette contest is always one of the more colorful events of the year in Salem, and should Everett Dean, faculty member at Stanford university, is being considered for job of dean of students at University of Indiana, his alma mater... If he gets the job, he'll be the only Dean Dean in captivity.

Short Skirts Get 'Ugly' Rating

Los Angeles, March 9 (AP)—Short skirts—and all they reveal—were the "ugliest period" in feminine fashion history, says a top fashion expert.

So there's little likelihood that women's hemlines will creep much higher, believes H. Stanley Marcus, vice president of Neiman-Marcus in Dallas, Tex.

Marcus, here for a fashion show, said "It's always dangerous to review styles that still live in the memories of most persons. They always remember the bad points."

Such as knobby knees?

OPEN FORUM

Likeness of Crows to People

To the Editor: A brief item in the Capital Journal or February 25 described some of the characteristics of the common crow, particularly as to their remarkable intelligence and cooperation against enemies, although they are notorious thieves among themselves.

It is a startling coincidence that the characteristics of the crow are so nearly the same as that of man, we may wonder if it were possible we descended from the crow, rather than monkeys.

The ethics and social conduct of the crow family is nearly a perfect counterpart of Republicans and Democrats. (Crows should make good obstructionist senators). Republicans and Democrats cooperate splendidly during wars; however, as soon as it ends, they start right in quarreling, slandering, lying and filching each other.

Personally I am inclined to have a little higher regard for crows. They are intelligent enough to settle their disputes without resorting to mass murder. That is more than we can say for mankind.

R. A. MOHNEY  
1515 Bellevue, Salem

Suggests Moving Courthouse

To the Editor: I have been reading about the new county courthouse that is being built here in Salem, and I think that they all have missed the point when they intend to build a new courthouse on one of the most important blocks in the city of Salem.

The state capital is taking enough of the city without leaving the courthouse in the middle of our fair city.

So here is my suggestion: Move the courthouse east to the center of Cottage Street between State and Court where the fountain is in the park. It will allow normal growth in the city and still have all the government buildings in a group, and I believe that the profit from the sale of the block where the courthouse is now would more than offset the cost of the move. I believe that the people of Marion county should have a chance to consider this before a new courthouse is built.

I. E. SUMPTER  
910 Norway St., Salem

Boy Stuffed Into Trunk

Houston, March 9 (AP)—Deputy sheriffs hauled in their man last night soon after an excited woman shouted over the telephone: "Quick! I just saw a man stuff a boy into the trunk of a car and drive off with him."

The culprit confessed: "I was taking some kids to a drive-in movie. And I put the boy in the trunk so I wouldn't have to pay for him."

Atom, Hydrogen Bombs Outlawed

Vaulouze-Fontaine, France, March 9 (AP)—The town council today enacted a law prohibiting the "bearing or use of atomic or hydrogen bombs within the city limits."

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

U. S. Has Two Alternatives in Battle for Peace; Which One?

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Some people around Washington think I've been nagging government officials by last week's letters on winning the peace. Maybe so. However, peace is something which about 15,000,000 American men thought they were fighting for, and which an entire nation still devoutly hopes for, so I'm going to keep on nagging.



Drew Pearson

However, since it's not quite fair to put others on the spot without giving your own views, here are my own gropings toward that most precious and elusive of all goals—permanent peace. The word "groping" is used intentionally, because there can be no sure-fire plan for peace. Moreover, the ideas which follow bear no copyright nor claim to originality. In brief, I believe the United States has two general alternatives:

1. One is the gruesome alternative of dropping the bomb now, when we are way ahead in A-bomb production. 2. The other is the difficult, back-breaking job of working at peace for a period of 25 to 50 years, with sacrifices beyond those which we have ever contemplated before.

To some people, the first alternative, horrible as it is, might seem the easier. In fact, war frequently seems the most convenient way out of an international impasse, which is one reason dictators declare war. Furthermore, the United States, despite the leak of atomic secrets to Russia, is far ahead in the production of atomic bombs, and will continue that lead for at least a year, probably longer.

But if we wait much beyond that, the military odds against us increase. Not only could Russia catch up to our atomic stockpile, not only can she get away to an even start with us in making hydrogen bombs, but her ground troops are now far superior, her air force is now about equal, her tanks are better, and her submarine fleet is growing.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

With the Russian population increasing much faster than ours, and with a greater proportion of her budget spent on armament, time is running rapidly against us.

As of today, however, the atomic warfare odds are so preponderantly in our favor that we could take the initiative in war with every expectation of winning.

Those are the cold, calculated facts on the side of alternative No. 1.

Alternative No. 2 is a 25-to-50-year war of nerves, of sacrifice and of diplomatic jujitsu.

This is a much tougher battle than appears on the surface. For one thing, the Soviet government is unalterably pledged to sabotaging the free world, and any conferences which we or Winston Churchill may have with Joe Stalin aren't going to change that fact.

President Truman's statements that Stalin is a pretty good fellow personally and that Chief Justice Vinson might be able to straighten him out overlook the fact that Russian policy is rigid. It does not change easily. Nor is it set by one man.

The politburo sets policy and it has been fixed in one groove for years—a groove which looks to the day when the free world will fall of its own weight, plus persistent, cunning digging around the roots of the tree of freedom by the Soviet world.

The idea that the communist and democratic systems can live together side by side, as suggested by Winston Churchill, is pure poppycock. They can't live side by side for the simple reason that the politburo isn't going to permit it.

Those are some of the arguments against alternative No. 2 and its long-drawn-out war of nerves and diplomatic jujitsu.

ATOMIC RECONSTRUCTION

Nevertheless, despite these depressing odds, I still believe we should adopt the second alternative. I say this not because I shrink from plunging the world into atomic-war—though I confess that I do—but for more practical reasons.

First it would take years to recover from the chaos left by an atomic war. Even if the destruction were confined to Russian soil, that area would have to be policed afterwards. It could not be left a stark and naked wilderness. Furthermore, the American people have a habit of going into areas we have defeated and spending billions in reconstruction. And we would probably do this also after war in Russia.

More important, however, the bitterness of the Russian people would be such that another war would be inevitable. They would begin counting the day, one hour after the first atomic explosion, when they could build up their strength to strike back.

If our goal is a warless world, this is not the way to win it. Nor would the bitterness of the rest of the world be much less. The United States has enjoyed great moral leadership because of the fact that not since the Mexican War of 1848 have we been an aggressor nation. Sometimes our failure to take the initiative has been costly, as at Pearl Harbor; but from the point of view of world leadership, it has been the wisest policy we ever followed.

Finally, and aside from the opinion of the rest of the world, we have to live with ourselves. We cannot lose our own self-respect.

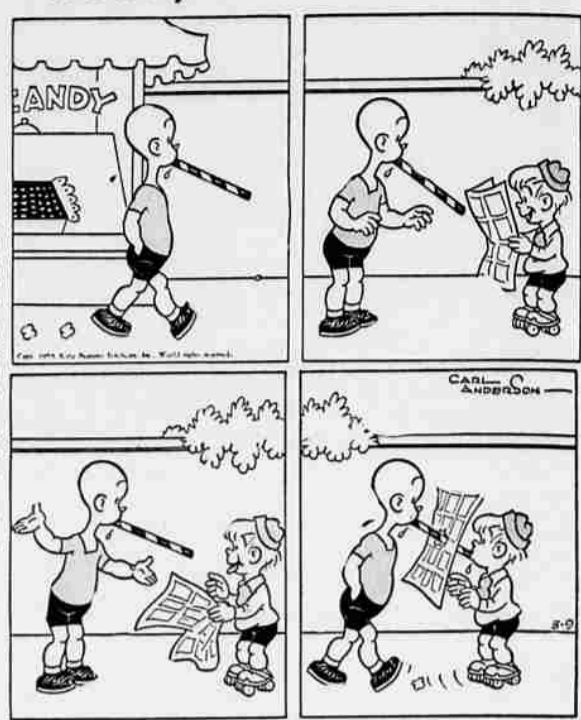
Therefore, despite the great military advantages to be gained, the vast majority of the American people, I feel sure, would vote against taking the initiative in dropping the atomic bomb at this time.

There may come a time when dropping the bomb will become necessary, as will be set forth in a later column. But not now. What then are the weapons by which we can attain man's most cherished goal of permanent peace?

(Ed. Note—Drew Pearson's program for peace will be continued tomorrow.)  
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BY CARL ANDERSON

Henry



MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Generalissimo Chiang Makes Fresh Bid to Reclaim China

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

As the signs read, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's dramatic resumption of the Chinese nationalist presidency marks the real beginning of his fresh bid to reclaim his country from the communists.

The recent successes of the nationalist air raids against Chinese communist territory, coupled with the approach of spring and better weather, seem to make this the appointed hour for Chiang to intensify his attack. Moreover, time is of the essence. He must strike before the Reds have consolidated their positions.



DeWitt MacKenzie

Well, that's strong language. What makes Chiang believe that he can evict the communists who control virtually the entire Chinese mainland? Has he really a whisper of hope?

Fred Hampson, AP chief of bureau in Hong Kong, cables that the Chinese communists, whose armies overrun China in a year, are now sitting ducks for the Nationalist air force.

"Military experts," says Hampson, "are becoming puzzled at the Reds' continued helplessness against a relatively small power. Indeed, they have come to believe that the Reds' position in power may actually be threatened unless they can whip together some air defenses pretty soon."

"Whatever the explanation, the situation daily grows more intolerable for the communists and, what counts heavily in China, the Reds are losing face at a terrific rate."

Shanghai's power plants are reported put out of commission, trains run at night. Coastal and river shipping is being wiped out and the Nationalist bombers are keeping foreign ships out of every Red port except Tientsin.

It is indeed an astonishing situation—so strange, as a matter of fact, that we shouldn't jump to conclusions about the Chinese communists' ability to cope with it. They may have a powerful answer in due course.

However, it is interesting to note that the present position seems to fit in with the generalissimo's hopes and plans. He figures on beating the communists by crippling their shipping, land communications and industries with his air force, and launching guerrilla warfare at many points on the mainland.

Plans for inspiring the guerrilla outbreaks were laid months ago. Chiang has been biding his time until conditions seemed right.

Meantime nature has been aiding him through the grave famine which has swept a wide area north of the Yangtze river. Millions of peasants are living on roots and grass. Death is taking toll with a ruthless hand, and experts fear that millions may perish before relief can be provided.

In China, as in other oriental countries, the people blame the current government for ill fortune. That's what the communist regime is up against and will continue to be up against until it can secure heavy imports of foodstuffs and other essential supplies. The way it looks now, the Chinese communists must turn to the western world for most of their immediate supplies—and that creates another problem.

So it looks as though China is on the verge of fresh developments. They are likely to speed up as winter gives way to better weather.

Not Lettuce For a Salad

Austin, Texas, March 9 (AP)—That lettuce Mrs. Marvin Thorp brought home from the grocery wasn't just salad.

The green stuff in one sack, she found, was the long, folding kind—\$50 worth. Mrs. Thorp hustled it back to the grocery. Store owner H. S. Gullett said the money had been bagged for a trip to the bank and mis-routed to Mrs. Thorp's grocery sack.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Sin Has Beginning and a Middle But Doesn't Seem to Have End

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Some time ago, having attacked poison snakes, I promised to go on and deal with the problem of sin.

But after exporing the subject a bit further, I found myself in great difficulty.

Poison snakes and sin are quite different. Poison snakes have a beginning, a middle and an end. Sin has a beginning and a middle, too—but it doesn't seem to have an end. It goes on and on and on—like the rim of a cup.

Sin is generally highly unpopular. But many people who denounce it in public must practice it in private, or it wouldn't go on getting the attention it does.

Anyway, the more I investigated the field of sin the more I realized it was too complex for a simple poor man's philosopher to understand.

Like Calvin Coolidge's preacher, I'm "agin' it." But here are what some of the great minds of the past have thought about sin:

"That which we call sin in others is experiment for us."—Emerson.

"Naught that delights is sin."—Ben Jonson.

(Boyle's note: This definition has to be taken with a box of table salt.)

"There is often a sin of omission as well as commission."—Marcus Aurelius.

"Sin is a state of mind, not an outward act."—William Sewell.

"It makes a great difference whether a person is unwilling to sin, or doesn't know how."—Seneca.

"He that falls into sin is a man; that grieves at it, is a saint; that boasteth of it, is a devil."—Thomas Fuller.

"A sin confessed is half-forgiven."—John Ray.

"One leak will sink a ship; and one sin will destroy a sinner."—John Bunyan.

"The Gods visit the sins of the fathers upon the children."—Euripides.

"Every sin is the result of a collaboration."—Stephen Crane.

"Be sure your sin will find you out."—Old Testament.

"A large part of mankind is angry not with the sins, but with the sinners."—Seneca.

Remembers Gas Ration Board

Grants Pass, Ore., March 9 (AP)—Someone in Portland has a guilty conscience.

Marvin Clark, insurance agent and head of the gas rationing board during the last war, received a penitent letter from a former Grants Pass resident now living in Portland. It read:

"During the war you were head of the gas rationing board. At that time we had a car and also a buzz saw. We took some of the tickets left over from the buzz saw and used them for the car, which was illegal.

"My only defense is that I never used them for pleasure trips but as needed to keep from coming in for more gas. However, even this was wrong, and I am willing to pay the penalty for this—whatever is thought right."